(ii) Export assistance to defray a part of expenditure on internal transport, marketing and handling charges and ocean freight @ Rs. 1350/- per tonne for sugar factories located in coastal areas and Rs. 1450/- per tonne for sugar factories located in non-coastal areas (subject to actuals for export by road/rail to neighbouring countries) have been announced for a period of one year with effect from 19th April, 2007. The amount involved is Rs. 205 crore (approximately) which is to be borne from Sugar Development Fund. The export assistance is also to be used exclusively for cane price arrears payment.

(iii) Ban on export of sugar has been removed in January, 2007 and requirement of obtaining an export release order for export of sugar except for exports to EU countries and USA has been withdrawn *w.e.f.* 31.07.2007, for the current and next sugar season.

The above assistance would help all sugar mills in the country including sugar mills of Karnataka.

Privatization of Delhi Milk Scheme

†1996. SHRI VINAY KATIYAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan to hand over Delhi Milk Scheme to some private companies;

(b) if so, by when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) to (c) No, Sir. There is no plan to hand over Delhi Milk Scheme to private companies. However, Union Cabinet has approved in principally, corporatisation of DMS.

Adulterated fertilizers

1997. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large quantity of adulterated fertilizer is being distributed and sold in Madhya Pradesh which causes hardships to the farmers; and

(b) if so, what is the monitoring mechanism proposed by Government to the States when allotment of fertilizers is made by the Central Government through their agencies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) No such case has come to the notice of the Government. However, Madhya Pradesh Government has reported that 429 samples have been found non-standard during 2007-08.